

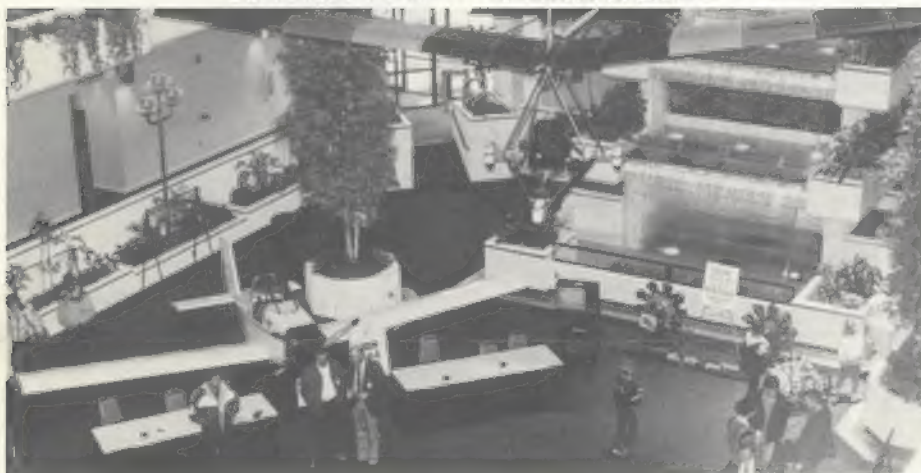
Montana and the Sky

Vol. 39, No. 3

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

March 1988

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE BECOMES A PART OF MONTANA AVIATION HISTORY



The lobby at the Plaza Holiday Inn in Billings was filled with aircraft engines, a small airplane, and balloon gondolas during the Montana Aviation Conference with an ultralight "flying" over all. The Conference, held February 17 - 20, 1988, drew 653 aviation enthusiasts from all over Montana and many from out of state.



A question is asked of the speaker at one of the many well-attended seminar sessions during the Conference. Speakers came from various parts of the U.S., Montana, and Canada. Their willingness to come to the Conference and share their expertise with the participants made for an extremely interesting, informative, and entertaining program. Forty-seven exhibitors filled 52 booth spaces with a broad array of aviation products. (See inside for more Conference photos.)

Annual CFR School to be Held

The nineteenth annual aircraft crash/fire/rescue school will be conducted by the Montana Air National Guard (MANG) Fire Department on the Great Falls International Airport May 9 - 12, 1988.

A brochure describing the school may be obtained by calling the MANG at 761-6233, or our office at 444-2506.

Montana airport firefighters may be eligible to have their registration fee paid by the Aeronautics Division. Contact Jerry Burrows at the above number for details.

The school is also open to airport firefighters from neighboring states.

FELKE WINS TOOL SCHOLARSHIP



Alan Ray Felke, Laurel (formerly of Lewistown), has been awarded a \$250 tool scholarship by the Montana Aeronautics Division. Felke received the tool scholarship as the top aviation maintenance graduate from the Helena Vo-Tech. Two such scholarships are awarded annually - one for each graduating class. Felke is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Felke. He is currently employed by Corporate Air in Helena. He previously worked for his father at Big Sky Aircraft in Lewistown and Laurel. His goal is to get into maintenance management.

Administrator's Column

URGENT *** PILOTS *** URGENT

The FAA has issued a Proposed Rule Making (Docket No. 25531, Notice No. 88-2) which, if successful, will mandate the following:

1. Require all aircraft operating within a 46.06 statute mile (40 nautical mile) radius of any airport having radar to be equipped with an altitude reporting transponder. Do not confuse this with Terminal Control Areas (TCAs), because they (FAA) mean ALL airports equipped with any type of radar (TRSA's, ARSA's, TCAs). If this goes through, both Great Falls and Billings will be immediately affected. Missoula is approved to receive radar in the near future, and Bozeman, Butte, and Helena are all hoping and vying to receive radar sometime in the future. There are presently 253 radar equipped airports in the U.S.
2. Require all aircraft operating above 6,000 feet at or above ground level or 12,500 feet above sea level, whichever is lower, to be equipped with altitude reporting transponders. This means anywhere, not just on published airways.

The FAA is stating that this proposal is a Congressional mandate which just recently passed in two separate laws in late 1987. The FAA's interpretation of these two laws appears to have come out quite different than the intent of Congress. If the FAA is successful in ram-rod-ding this NPRM down our throats - GOOD-BY to VFR flying in the United States. GOOD-BY to the antiques, homebuilts, aerial applicators, gliders, seaplanes, and most all small general aviation aircraft. GOOD-BY to small airports in the United States.

TIME IS SHORT! The FAA has set a deadline of March 28, 1988, to receive your comments. If you wish to express your feelings on this proposal, you can write (mail two copies) to: FAA Rules Docket 25531, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20591. Additionally, you should write to our Montana congressional delegation and let them know how you feel about this FAA proposal. Enclose a copy of your letter to the FAA. Write to Senators John Melcher and Max Baucus at Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Letters to Representatives Ron Marlenee and Pat Williams should be sent to them at House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. This issue is so URGENT that we must not depend upon the other person to write the letters. We must do it ourselves. AND SOON!! (The graphics on page 3 were prepared by the EAA and dramatically illustrate the results of this proposed NPRM.)

Montana - Canada - Alaska Air Tour (MONTCANASKA). Plans are going forward to meet in Helena in the late afternoon of July 1 for a safety and briefing meeting of all participants. It is anticipated that one or more Canadian aviation safety representatives will be present to assist in the briefings. We are planning on providing each airplane with the necessary VFR charts for the flight which will, for the most part, be the Alcan Highway route with designated layover points along the route. We will plan to depart Helena the morning of July 2, and the designated layover points will be planned for Super Cub speeds so all aircraft can participate. We are working with folks from the Alberta Aviation Council, British Columbia Aviation Council, Yukon Territories Aviation Council, Alaska Aviation Division, and Dr. Jerry Cockrell, Director of Safety, Markair. The tentative plans, which we are now working on, will be for each of the above-named organizations to host a no-host arrival hospitality gathering, such as hamburger barbecue and refreshments, and transportation to the motel/hotel at the designated stopover points along the route. Then, after arrival at a small general aviation airport near Anchorage, an awards celebration and salmon/halibut bake would be put on. A meeting is being planned in the near future where the Canadians and some volunteer helpers will put together the final plans. I'll keep you posted. I would appreciate it if anyone interested in participating in this event would fill out and return the little form below so that I may keep you informed as plans progress.

Yes, I am interested in the proposed MONTCANASKA Air Tour. Please put my name on a mailing list so that I may be informed as plans progress.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____



Montana and the Sky
USPS 359 860
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Official Monthly Publication
of the
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MONTANA AND THE SKY is
published monthly in the interest of
aviation in the State of Montana.
Second-Class postage paid at
Helena, Montana 59604
Subscription \$2.00 per year
Editor: Martha E. Kurtz

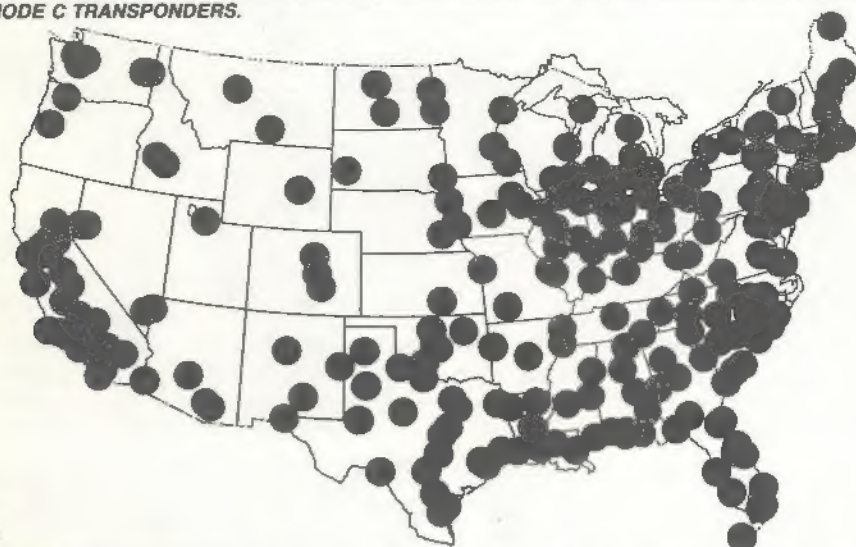
"POSTMASTER: Send address
change to Montana and the Sky,
Box 5178, Helena, Montana
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THE PROPOSAL

THE FAA HAS ISSUED A NPRM WHICH WOULD MASSIVELY INCREASE THE NUMBER AND SIZE OF TERMINAL AREAS IN WHICH MODE C TRANSPONDERS WOULD BE REQUIRED, FROM THE CURRENT 23 TCA'S...



... TO THIS INCREDIBLE MUTILATION OF THE NATION'S AIRSPACE. OVER 250 CYLINDERS OF AIRSPACE, EACH 92 MILES WIDE, WOULD BE CENTERED OVER ALL THE NATION'S CIVIL AND MILITARY AIRPORTS THAT HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS TRSA'S, ARSA'S AND TCA'S. MODE C WOULD BE REQUIRED IN THESE CYLINDERS FROM THE GROUND UP TO INFINITY, EFFECTIVELY GROUNDING ALL AIRCRAFT BASED WITHIN THEM THAT ARE NOT EQUIPPED WITH MODE C TRANSPONDERS.



CALENDAR

May 21—MFF President's Fly-In, Kummerfeldts, Nashua.

May 22-23—Alberta International Air Show, Canadian Forces Base, Edmonton. (Civil aviation pilots fly in to the Edmonton Municipal Airport - free ground transportation will be provided to the Canadian Forces Base. Call Don Gordon at 403-453-5576 for more information.)

June 3-5—National Biplane Fly-In, Frank Phillips Field, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

June 18—MFF Man and Woman of the Year Fly-In, Melville.

July 1-5—MONTCANASKA Air Tour. (Tentative. See Administrator's Column for further details.)

July 2—Fly-In/Air Show, Big Sky Airport, Ennis. Contact Tammy Yedinak at 682-7431 or Ed Totten at 682-7182.

July 3—IFF Queen's Fly-In, Mary Bogar, Opheim.

July 9-10—Big Sky International Air Show, Billings. Featuring Blue Angels, Bob Hoover, Eagles Aerobatic Team, Golden Knights.

July 15-16—Schafer Meadows Work Session

July 22-24—Family Fly-In Expo, West Yellowstone.

July 29-Aug. 5—EAA Convention, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Aug. 13—Helena Air Fair. Featuring the Thunderbirds.

Sept. 16-18—Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

Oct. 6-8—AOPA Convention, Nashville, Tennessee.

Missoula Sets Boardings Record

"A new all-time passenger boarding record was set at the Missoula International Airport for 1987 with 148,582 passenger enplanements," according to Russell R. Pankey, Director of Airports for Missoula County Airport Authority.

This was an increase of 8.59% over the 1986 record year of 136,825 passengers.

A total of 2,904,369 pounds of air cargo was also handled during 1987, an increase of 49.4% over the 1986 total. The Airport Control Tower reported handling 64,943 aircraft operations for 1987, which was 16.46% increase over the 1986 total of 55,762. The FSS at the Missoula Airport recorded 31.45% more operations in 1987 than in 1986.

THE 1988 MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE

(Photos of the awards presented at the Saturday luncheon and those taken of Rutan/Yeager will appear in the April issue of Montana and the Sky.)



Speaker for the kick-off luncheon was Robert L. Donahue, Associate Administrator for Airports, FAA, Washington, D.C.



Dan Todd, Vice President for Technical and Government Affairs, AOPA spoke at the awards luncheon on Saturday.



Jess Apedaile (left) and Martin Elshire handle the door prize drawings at the Friday luncheon.



Russ Pankey (left), manager of the Missoula International Airport, presents Donahue with a Missoula Airport jacket.



A buffet luncheon (free to Conference registrants) was served in the exhibit area on Friday. Over 400 people were served after which drawings were held for numerous door prizes. In all, over \$7,000 worth of door prizes were donated by aviation firms and given away to Conference participants.



Ray Costello (left), regional representative for AOPA from Corvallis, Oregon, visits with Jim McLean, Aeronautics Board member and former chairman, from Bozeman.

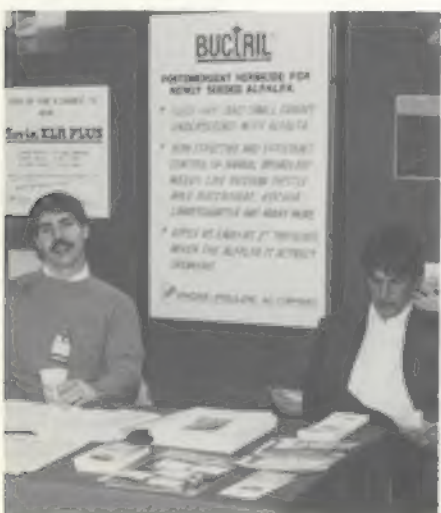


Vivienne Schrank, Jordan, (left) and Loretta Chapman, Gardiner, borrow an exhibitor's table for lunch.



A hospitality hour in the exhibit area on Friday evening attracted a large crowd.

Exhibitors covered a broad range of aviation products and services and spent a good deal of time in discussions with Conference participants. The display area always draws a great deal of interest and exhibitors are to be congratulated for taking the time to come with presentation of such a wide variety of professional displays. The display area also serves as a great common meeting ground where problems and issues are discussed as these pictures demonstrate





This roundtable discussion dealt with aviation/aerospace education.



Many conference participants donated \$2 each to be used as a scholarship to send a Montana youngster to the EAA Air Academy this summer. Mike Ferguson collected \$2 from Mike Biggerstaff and then "stuck" him with a small hot air balloon as a sign that he donated. The trip to the Academy will be awarded to the senior division winner of the Montana Aeronautics Division's Aviation Awareness Poster Contest.



This group gave rapt attention to Dr. Cockrell in his "Flying Friends" seminar for non-pilots.



You never know what Dr. Cockrell will use as a "prop" for another aviation story - always with a moral.



Sheri Kasun-Kessler, FSS specialist from Billings, was a member of a panel which discussed aviation careers with students. Others on the panel included retired airline pilot Doug Parrott, Ben Diggs, Director of Aviation Studies for Rocky Mountain College, and Capt. John Zink, pilot of the F-16.



The youngsters came from around the Billings area and attended not just the session on careers but also looked in on some of the other sessions and toured the display area.

Only a few of the many speakers who came to the Conference to share their expertise with Conference participants include:



Harry Fallis, Regional Manager, Aviation Safety, Transport Canada, Calgary.



Wayne Barlow, Director, Northwest Mountain Region, FAA, Seattle.



Bernie Geier, Executive Director of the National Association of Flight Instructors, Virginia.



Lt. Col. Ron Davis, Chief, Airspace Management Division, Strategic Air Command, Nebraska.



Art Wells, Manager, Flight Standards District Office, FAA Helena.



Tom Chapman, State Counsel, Office of State Affairs, AOPA, Maryland.

FAA Issues Certificates

PRIVATE

Stephen Monahan	Helena
Michael Pederson	Glasgow
William Meeks	Geraldine
Robert Mittal	Geraldine
Shawn Foutch	Helena
Arthur Mizell	Hot Springs
Richard Hull	Kalispell
Richard Tutt	Whitefish
Gail Sanchez	Bozeman
Brent Toavs	Wolf Point
Fredrick Henningsen	Butte
Thomas Savage	Ennis
Joseph Powers	Billings
Ralph Burkhardtmeier	Hingham

COMMERCIAL

Kenneth Nelson	Joplin
Roger Snider	Harlem

INSTRUMENT

Jay Nance	Birney
Robert Dillon	Red Lodge
Florence Blain	Billings
Robert Stephens	Billings
Andrew Fish	Billings
Gary Watson	Missoula
Daniel Theisen	Belgrade
James O'Hara	Fort Benton
Wilbur Fultz	Fort Benton

MULTIENGINE

Michael Lesnick	Bozeman
(Rotorcraft)	
Kenneth Probst	Helena
Florence Blain	Billings

ATP

John Rasmussen	Great Falls
Keith Petersen	Helena
(Multiengine)	

INSTRUCTOR

Patrick Sipes	Billings
David Coon	Helena
(Multiengine)	
Clayton Vine	Wolf Point
(Instrument)	
Jay Nance	Birney
Andrew Daniel	Billings
Dale Klugman	Helena
(Instrument)	
Daniel French	Hobson

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Richard Tutt	Whitefish
Gail Sanchez	Bozeman
Brent Toavs	Wolf Point
Fredrick Henningsen	Butte
Thomas Savage	Ennis
Joseph Powers	Billings
Ralph Burkhartsmeier	Hingham

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Robert Stephens	Billings
Andrew Fish	Billings
Gary Watson	Missoula
Daniel Theisen	Belgrade
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Wilbur Fultz	Fort Benton

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Daniel French	Hobson

NWS to Reduce Hours at Havre

By: Fred Hasskamp, Chief
Safety and Education Bureau

David E. Olson, area manager of the National Weather Service, recently announced reduced hours of operation for the Weather Service Office in Havre. Havre weather will be available from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. seven days per week. The station will also close on weekends during periods of annual and sick leave.

What this means to the aviation community is that weather observations will not be available for 16 hours a day. The greatest impact will be on FAR Part 135 air taxi operators who will not be able to make an instrument approach to the Havre Airport when current Havre weather is not available. It will also affect other instrument pi-

lots who will not be able to file Havre as an IFR alternate.

Northwest Airlink and Corporate Air each have trained weather observers who will make official observations for their company flights which occur at times the Weather Service Office is closed.

Johnson Book Again Becomes Available

There is good news for those who have been interested in buying a copy of *Fly the Biggest Piece Back* and have been unable to find one.

A portrait in words and photographs of mountain pilot Bob Johnson and the growth of the Johnson Flying service of Missoula, the book was first published in 1979. The second printing in 1982 was sold out. The third printing of the book, in both hardback

and soft cover, has been updated and revised and was due out in early March.

Author of the book is Steve Smith of Missoula. Smith earned bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from the University of Montana. He has worked as a reporter and feature writer and has taught journalism at the University of Alaska and the University of Montana.

Address inquiries about purchase to Steve Smith at 1615 1/2 S. Higgins, Missoula, Montana 59801.

2,000 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.36 per copy for a total cost of \$728.40, which includes \$543.40 for printing and \$185 for distribution.

MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

PURPOSE—"To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in research, development, and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states."



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March 1988

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